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**OCT 25 2002**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of  
Marcos V. Masson et al  
Application No. 09/916,819  
Filed: July 30, 2001  
Attorney Docket No. 1798-2

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**ON PETITION**

This is a decision on the petition, filed September 30, 2002, under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(3) to withdraw the above-identified application from issue after payment of the issue fee.

The petition was accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.138(c) for express abandonment to avoid publication and another express abandonment to permit consideration of an information disclosure statement in a continuing application.

On October 22, 2002, prior to receipt of the petition to withdraw the instant application from issue in the deciding official's office, the Office of Patent Publication, PGPub Division, mailed a decision granting the petition under 37 CFR 1.138(c) and acknowledged the express abandonment of the application.

Accordingly, in view of the granting of the petition under 37 CFR 1.138(c) and acknowledgment of the express abandonment on October 22, 2002, the instant petition to withdraw from issue is dismissed as involving a moot issue.

Telephone inquiries should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 305-8680.

The abandoned application is being forwarded to Files Repository.

  
Frances Hicks

Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner  
for Patent Examination Policy